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## Legislature of Maine.

### SPEECH OF MR. HOLMES. IN THE HOUSE.

TUESDAY, Feb. 23.

The House having resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. McIntire of Parsonsfield in the Chair, for the consideration of the Bill additional to an Act to regulate Banks and Banking, by prohibiting the emission and circulation of bank notes of a small denomination.

Mr. HOLMES of Alfred said,—"In occupying this place, which I am permitted to do, by the courtesy of the gentlemen from Westbrook (Mr. Smith), I am aware I stand on democratic ground, and find too that I am surrounded by a democratic atmosphere. I am admonished, therefore, that I should do nothing which should pollute the sanctuary or infect the atmosphere. Indeed situated as I am, considering my age, and the aspect of affairs, there is nothing very fascinating or promising in engaging in a political crusade—presenting as I do a town decidedly administration, there is something due to the feelings of my constituents. While they expect me to entertain and pursue my own principles independently, they have no reason to believe that I will go out of my way to provoke party discussion.

I argue and I justify my violation of the law of last winter on the ground that it is unconstitutional. I will obey any law how much soever I may have opposed its enactment, and whatever may be its impolicy or inexpediency, unless I am satisfied on full reflection that it is unconstitutional. As I at this late hour have probably to give way for the Committee to rise, I will say, with your leave frankly state my grounds, that the Speaker, who will no doubt make the best of his case, and others may have time to consider them—they are these:

1. This Act, as that of last winter is void—as "violating the obligation of a contract."
2. This Act is moreover void as it controls and restrains the executive power of the State as guaranteed by the Constitution.
3. It extends the list of impeachable offences to an alarming extent.
4. It creates a system of espionage unknown in this country and unheard of in any, and offers bribes to one violator of a law to convict his participant.

The Act of the 17th March 1831 authorizes the Legislature to alter, amend or repeal any act of incorporation—unless this right is expressly restricted in the act of incorporation itself.—That provision prescribing what shall be necessary to take a corporation out of its operation is always subject to be altered by a subsequent act by the same, or any other Legislature.—The act of the 31st March 1831,—to regulate Banks and Banking is the basis of all Bank incorporations, for all subsequent acts establishing banks expressly refer to it, make it the rule of action, and constitute it part of each charter.—Take the act of March 17, 1831, "concerning corporations," which provides that "all acts of incorporation which shall be passed after the passage of this act, shall at all times hereafter be liable to be amended, altered or repealed at the pleasure of the Legislature in the same manner, as if an express provision to that effect were therein contained, unless there shall have been inserted in such act of incorporation an express limitation or provision to the contrary." Now, it may be very questionable, whether, if this act stood unaltered, it would give the power claimed.

That the Legislature may reserve the extraordinary power of annulling without cause, or of changing the essential provisions of their own grant is a doctrine not yet settled by adjudication. This reserving an unlimited discretion to amend, or alter might be a reservation to impair the obligation of contracts, and consequently an infraction, not only of the Constitution of this State, but of the United States. But be this as it may, I shall endeavor to prove in the course of this discussion that if the act of the 17th March remained unaltered the words "alter or amend, or repeal," were never intended to give the Legislature the power, radically or materially, to diminish the benefits, or increase the burdensome conditions of their own grant, or to annul it without cause.

But the general Bank act of the 31st March, has modified that of the 17th, or rather repealed it entirely in regard to Banks. To-morrow, sir, with leave of the House, I shall proceed with the constitutional argument, to which I intend to confine myself, and I am much mistaken if I do not convince even the advocates of this bill that it is unconstitutional, and in more instances than one—flagrantly so.

Next morning Mr. Holmes continued:—  
Agreeably to my promise I shall occupy exclusively constitutional ground. But connected with this I will just ask what is the exigency, which urges to the exercise of powers even of

doubtful constitutionality!! The people are quiet—they want no such restrictions upon their ordinary business. They have asked for nothing more, and totally disregard all you have already done. Not a single petition for the act of last year, nor for the bill under discussion.—On the contrary, petitions are frequently coming in against the whole concern. I had the honor the other day to present a petition from a majority of the legal voters of Newfield (the attorney general's town) headed by a Jackson man, treasurer, and selectman, praying to be let alone. And why will you not let them alone? You seem to be acting if the people were in imminent danger of some great calamity, and did not know it; as though all the wisdom was sent here and nothing but ignorance and stupidity left at home.

Sir, I believe "the people" know a thing or two; they know at least that it is for their interest, nay for their lives that the constitution should be preserved unimpaired. But we are scarcely aware how easy it is to transgress constitutional barriers. Men are prone to fear power in the hands of every one else, but consider it very safe in their own. "Give up power for it is only to do good," not considering that unlimited power to do good necessarily involves that to do evil. This power to do good has been the claim of every despot, from Nimrod down to the Emperor Nicholas, the autocrat of the Russians. Now let us state the case.—The act of 17th March reserves (for the sake of argument,) unlimited powers to alter, amend, or repeal Bank charters, "unless there shall have been inserted in such act of incorporation an express limitation or provision to the contrary." Then comes the act of the 31st with the express modifying and repealing section, "that no acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act, shall have effect upon or in any way apply to Banks which may hereafter be incorporated, or whose charter may hereafter be extended, after the time when such incorporation or extension shall take effect, with the single exception of an act to prevent fraud in the business of Banks" as of the 2d Feb. 1835. Now take for an example the charter of the Cumberland Bank passed 19th March 1835, and two days prior to your prohibiting act of last session. "The third section" reads thus:—"that said incorporation shall be entitled to all the duties, liabilities and requirements specified in an act entitled an act to regulate Banks and Banking, passed the 31st March, 1831." The acts of 31 March 1831 and of the 19th March 1835, constituted the charter of this Bank, and the single question presented is this, do these two acts of 31 March 1831, and that of 19th March 1835, take this charter out of the provision of 17 March 1831? If this of the 17th is inconsistent with the provisions of the other subsequent acts, then its inconsistency must yield. The last law, as the last will, explains and annuls all that is previous and inconsistent, and more especially when it is expressly so provided. Now the act of the 31st is the ground basis of all subsequent there is an express reference to it and each is tied down to its rules exclusively without the least reference to that of the 17th. Its rules are ample and appropriate for all Banks, it begins with the declaration that these charters subsequently granted or extended "shall be governed by the following rules, and subjected to all the duties, limitations, restrictions, liabilities and provisions contained in this act," and it ends with a positive and imperative enactment that "no acts or parts of acts, inconsistent with its provisions shall have effect upon or in any way apply to subsequent Bank charters." We have now arrived at the point and we present the question directly, is the act of the 17th inconsistent with that of the 31st? Does it in fact give the Legislature an authority in regard to the issuing bills under \$5.00 which that of the 31st takes away, or restrains? In the 20th section of this article is this express grant—"Every Bank within this State may issue bills under \$5.00 to the amount of 25 per ct. of its capital actually paid in and no more; but no Bank shall issue bills of a less denomination than \$1.00, under a penalty of \$100 for each offence."

The history of the transaction accords perfectly with this construction. The act of 31 March was postponed from day to day before its provisions could be perfected. Fifteen acts for new Banks and re-charters of old ones were lying on the table waiting for the passage of that of 31st of March, and the very next day 1st April, they were all enacted—and in every one the act of 31 of March is made the basis, the exclusive basis, for no other act is referred to or even hinted at. Is it then consistent with the provisions of this act that charter of which it constitutes a part and which it was expressly intended to protect, should be subject to the entire will and unlimited pleasure of the Legislature?

If it be indeed so, all the provisions of the act of 31, are not only useless, but utterly inoperative. The grant for sixteen years, is no such thing, it is only at will; so of the amount of capital, liabilities of directors, amount of issues and causes of forfeiture of charters, indeed every thing is supererogation, if all is subject to legislative will; and they who took their charters of the 1st of April 1831, must be "April fools" indeed.

Such then is the order of the legislation, that the conclusion is irresistible that the authority given to the Legislature in the act of the 17th is entirely inconsistent with the provisions of that of the 31st. That any legislation under the former which conflicts with the provisions of the latter is consequently void. Wherefore the act of last session, as well as this under consideration, prohibiting the issuing of small bills, does conflict with the act of the 31st, and is therefore void.

I say therefore void—because a Bank charter is a contract to be executed according to its terms. The act of 31st and the charters of the first of April are the grant—the deed between two parties—the State and the corporation—and any law diminishing the rights or increasing the liabilities of the corporation is a violation of the contract. The constitution of the United States provides and ours has copied it, that "no State shall pass any bill attainted, ex post facto law or law impairing the obligation of contracts." This prohibition extends to contracts to which the State itself is a party—and to deeds and grants—these being contracts executed. The obligation of a contract is a law of the contract—for without a law to enforce it, it has no obligation.

The question recurs, have you the constitutional power to do this. I say nothing of the terms of these Bank contracts. Though the Legislature of 1831 may have made bad bargains, we must execute them in good faith. It is the chief glory of the United States that it executes its contracts with good faith. It is this which gives it such credit, that its stocks are high in the markets, all over the world. I would encourage and inculcate a liberal and yielding spirit, except where our national honor or independence were concerned, and there I would cavil for the ninth part of a hair!!

The people, by their agents, the Legislature have made this contract. If binding at all, it is reciprocally binding. The Banks must pay the tax of 1 per cent, on the capital, and loan the State at 5 per cent, and as a part of the consideration for these and obligation, are entitled to issue small bills to the amount of one fourth of their capital stock. In restricting or prohibiting these issues, you diminish or subtract a benefit granted, and thereby impair the obligation of the contract.

I do not, I repeat, inquire into the policy of these contracts. The question is, are they made? If they are we must execute them with good faith. The subterfuge that "the king is deceived in his grant," may do very well when the monarchs would usurp a franchise, but a republic can never with impunity thus circumvent its citizens. No matter who the citizen is, high or low, rich or poor, popular or unpopular, if his rights, which are rights common to all, are assailed or infringed, they will make the cause a common one. The electors of Middlesex cared very little for Wilkes. He had very little of public or private character which was either enviable or desirable. It was that in his person their rights were infringed, that produced the excitement. And as often as the administration sustained Lutterell, the people re-elected Wilkes; and they preserved until they triumphed.

Our fathers made it a prominent ground of the revolution that the parent country had taken away our "chartered rights."

Though it is a universal principle of free governments that the State is invariably bound to fulfill all its contracts with its citizens in perfect good faith, yet the framers of the U. S. Constitution had more sagacity than to leave this to inference, and they inserted an express prohibition upon every State against passing any law "impairing the obligation of contracts"—This is an American expression—no foreign book has it identically. I trace it back to the ordinance for the Government of N. W. Territory of the 13 July, 1787, and it is there made one of the fundamental articles. It was thence copied into the U. S. Constitution and has been adopted into that of this State.

That this prohibits a State itself to impair its own contracts was very early decided by the Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of Fletcher vs. Peck, which involved the celebrated Yazoo speculation. It seems that the Legislature of Georgia had granted these Yazoo lands to the Georgia Mississippi Company, and they had sold to the N. England M. Co.

The next Legislature repealed the grant on the ground of fraud in the first Legislature.—The court, after an elaborate investigation (terminated that this fraud would not affect innocent purchasers, that the grant of the Legislature was "a contract executed" and that the annulment by a subsequent Legislature was void as impairing the obligation of a contract. Hence as in Sturgis vs. Crowningshield, the insolvent laws of a State are unconstitutional as far as they can act on existing contracts. So the case of Dartmouth College vs. Woodward, annulled an act of the New Hampshire Legislature which changed the charter of the college, by increasing the number of trustees, though it was insisted that if there was a contract at all the trustees took no beneficial interest in it. So in the case of Allen vs. Bowdoin College. And indeed the doctrine has been fully settled in the case of Greene et als vs. Biddle, that any diminution of benefit to

either party is impairing the obligation of the contract and therefore unconstitutional.

Our State Constitution has copied the identical words. Was not this done understandingly? This clause had been judicially expounded by the ultimate judicial tribunal. The case of Fletcher vs. Peck was the known law of the land. The convention who inserted it, knew full well that it had a definite, unequivocal meaning and they adopted it as expounded.—The judiciary of this State have pursued the same course. In the case of the Lincoln and Kennebec Bank vs. Richardson, it is adjudged that when the charter is accepted it becomes a contract. And in a late case Bowdoinham vs. Richmond, when in the division of the town of Bowdoinham, the support of the poor is divided, and a subsequent act relieves Richmond and puts a larger portion of the burden on Bowdoinham, it is decided that this last legislative act is unconstitutional, as impairing the obligation of the contract. Take then this single view. The Stockholders have a contract from the State for 16 years, containing an express provision that they may issue 25 per cent of their capital in small bills, reserving the right to annul the charter in a particular case, and on evidence of its violation, and repealing all laws inconsistent with its provisions.—The contract is reciprocal—founded on the considerations of public benefit, an obligation to loan the State at 5 per cent, and the reservation of a tax of one per cent on its capital. Now, sir, if we doubt we should pause, even were it an affair of great public expediency. But in such a trifling and with such reasons, which I deem absolutely conclusive against the constitutionality of the law, it seems to me madness to proceed. But allow, as some pretend, that it is of great public moment, and that an excitement, party or otherwise, is propelling you on. For this very reason you should be cautioned. It is in the rashness of excited feelings, that the Constitution is in most danger. In such times usurpations are unobserved—the first is a precedent for the second, until they become legitimate.—Power never retrogrades—its movements are onward! onward!! "With an eye that never winks, and a wink that never tires," it is not only onward but upward too—soaring aloft, casting a careless, indifferent eye on all human rights below. The State is the Ship reason is the helm—the constitution the compass—tyranny and oppression the rocks and quicksands which lie buried in the gulf beneath—and party strifes and morbid sensibilities the storms and tempests. It is then that some experienced pilot should take the helm and observe the needle well—see that no metallic substance attracts it from the pole, and calculate its ordinary variations with accuracy. In this voyage, I have entered before the mast—a common sailor only—but I have entered for the voyage; and by managing well the helm and observing well the needle, we will perform the voyage successfully, and return into port, all well, under easy sail, the star spangled banner floating proudly in the breeze.

But sir, though the unconstitutionality in this particular respect is palpable, there are others, which are emphatically and absolutely flagrant. For the constitution of Maine, I have, perhaps, a childish veneration. But I trust I shall be pardoned for an overweening partiality. Much of it was the work of my own hands. I have a trunk of old papers in my library, the original draft in my own hand writing—pened before I left home for the Convention.—And, sir, it might be matter of curiosity, and one perhaps surprising, to perceive how little the one departed varied from the original. The whole bill of rights I believe with scarcely an exception was adopted from my draft. It provides for the constitution of Maine, I have, perhaps, a childish veneration. But I trust I shall be pardoned for an overweening partiality. Much of it was the work of my own hands. 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at a glance : your visitor would exclaim, indeed a show got up to ridicule a real movement, or what is it?"

...and the prompt Packard

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ages of the parties were 96, & 93, each  
have been previously married six times.

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OXFORD DEMOCRAT.  
Paris, March 22, 1836.  
REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.  
FOR PRESIDENT.  
MARTIN VAN BUREN, of N. York.  
FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.  
RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Kentucky.

When is the Legislature going to rise? is the daily enquiry of the people, addressed to us because, being an editor, we are bound as a matter of course to know all these things. Failing to obtain perfect satisfaction on this point the next enquiry is, what are they doing there all this time. To this we briefly reply they are making corporations. Not that we intend to be understood as saying that the Legislature do nothing else, but frame these soulless bodies and animate them with a portion of that power which belongs to the people alone, but that this appears to be their principal business—that they do more of this than anything else. Some of them may be harmless things enough, but others have power sufficient to make them dangerous, and the people retain too little power over them for their own safety. The Bank charters still slumber on the table of the President of the Senate, and we hope their sleep may be eternal. There was a time when they might have passed, but the attention of the people has been called to the subject, and we hope the momentary weakness has gone by.

Resolutions on the subject of slavery, opposed to the sentiments of the abolitionists, have been passed by the Legislature of this State. The vote on the passage of these resolutions was a large, though not an unanimous one, showing that it was not made a party question. It is worth while to notice who were the few who opposed the resolutions, because when we transfer our attention from our own Legislature to the halls of Congress and examine who it is, that labor most strenuously there to keep up the excitement on this same subject, we find there is method in their madness, if it may be called such. It is not the Federal or Whig party as such, but it is the ultra of that party who would keep up the excitement, even to the point of dissolution. The opposition in our Senate came from the Senators from Kennebec, and in the House from the eleven who voted against the resolutions. We were from that County which alone elected Federal Senators last fall. We commend this fact to the notice of Mr. Calhoun and his associates, who have stigmatized the Van Buren men of the north as abolitionists.

One of the Bank members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania has proposed to that body the passage of a law prohibiting the circulation in that State of the Bills of any State that shall pass acts to prevent or restrain the circulation of the Bills of the U. S. Bank. The Bank presses are mightily pleased at this project. We are satisfied with it and hope that it may be done. It will in our opinion have one good effect, in limiting the circulation of and of course the influence of Bank paper, and the Banks will be the greatest sufferers. But why are the Federal papers so sensitive on the subject? Were they transferred from the old to the new Bank as a part of the State? Is their allegiance thus transferred at the pleasure of President Biddle? It would seem that some of the party did not so understand the contract. Mr. Biddle's leader & champion in our Legislature said that he was the old Bank had been represented to be, the new one was two fold more the child of his than the other, and expressed in strong terms his willingness to favor any bill that might be introduced to prohibit the circulation of the Bills of the new Bank or the establishment of its agents in this State. We hope that every democratic State in the Union will pass acts prohibiting the circulation of these bills, and we shall have nothing to fear from the retaliatory measures of Pennsylvania.

Edward Kent, the Federal Candidate for Governor, has been elected Mayor of the City of Bangor by a large majority.

The federalists are beginning to have great reactions in their favor as they say. Federal elections and even hog contables have been chosen in several towns, where last year the democratic party prevailed. These are glorious triumphs. The cheers and exultations are worthy of the party who utter them. Drowning men catch at straws, and desperate must be the condition of a party who are compelled to shout at such events to cheer the spirits of their followers.

The Lady's Book has been received containing an elegant colored engraving of the Philadelphia fashions, with the usual quantity of interesting matter.

The March number of the Museum is as usual valuable and interesting.

WASHINGTON, March 11.

Senate. The Bill for appropriations to extend the Cumberland Road through Ohio, Indiana and Illinois being under consideration, Mr. Clay spoke at some length. He argued that Congress had the constitutional right to make Internal Improvements, as it could not have been derived from any compact with those States through which the road was to pass; that the 1-2 per cent on the sales of public lands (at \$1.25 per acre) in the three above mentioned States, would amount only to about \$700,000, which it had been pretended was the fund for making the road; whereas five or six millions had already been expended; that as he had entered into some bargain, intrigue and management with his honorable friends who asked for the appropriation, he was disposed to be liberal with them, and would allow \$250,000 for Indiana. He said he did not know where the Hon. Senator (Mr. Tipton) got his enormous calculation of seven millions from the 2-1-2 per cent fund from land sales, but thought he must have got it from the moon or the gentleman who had recently made such wonderful discoveries there.

Mr. Tipton informed him that he got it from neither, but from the Hon. Senator from Kentucky himself—from one of his speeches (as I understood) delivered some time since on the Cumberland Road Bill, when the Senators went into a 2-1-2 per cent calculation on the sales of public lands, for the purpose of showing how small a percentage would produce an enormous sum. The laugh was transferred from Mr. Clay, who blushed like a lobster at the unexpected information!

Col. Benton urged the whole amount reported, to be appropriated, and called for the yeas and nays. Mr. Porter went against all appropriations, unless they were shared by all the States.

Mr. Clay gave a history of the Cumberland Road. Mr. Hendricks said Indiana was not chargeable with the last appropriation for repairs of the road. Mr. Ewing explained the 2-1-2 per cent, stating that the amount from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, applied to the construction of the road leading to those States; and that the fund agreeable to compact with them, had not been expended. He solved this enigma very clearly, after all the mystery and sophistry Mr. Clay had thrown round it. I begin to like Ewing in proportion as he finds it his interest to act in opposition to Mr. Clay—for in this proportion it appears to me, he approaches the principles of honesty and good sense. The appropriation Bill passed. Mr. Ewing then gave notice he should call up on Monday the Bill for making distribution of the sales of the Public Lands, &c.

Abolition next coming in order, Mr. Leigh withdrew his amendment, as Mr. King of Ala. had been so polite to him! Much virtue in politeness—it beats logic all hollow.

After some attempts at amendment by Mr. McKean, which were negative, and remarks from Hendricks, Ewing, Calhoun, Walker, Preston, and a speech from Davis, Mr. Buchanan's motion to reject passed by a vote of 34 to 6.

Mr. Webster gave notice he had some Petitions on the subject he should offer and move a reference to the Committee on the District of Columbia. This subject is the only available political ground the opposition can at present occupy.

House. The North Carolina Election occupied its hour, and the old pensioners the rest of the day.

REIS EFFENDI.

From the Eastern Argus.

We have recently expressed our views at length on the subject of the State embarking in partnership with companies for Banking or other purposes. We regard the policy as destructive of the best interests of the State. It is an alarming departure from the true object of Government is formed for the protection of certain great natural rights, leaving the utmost freedom to individual industry, conscience, speech, and the press. When confined to those leading interests, its action is equal, and Government is a source of unmixed felicity; but when this legitimate sphere is abandoned, and individual industry and happiness are sought to be regulated by special legislation, Government is removed from its republican basis, and rapidly degenerates into an unmitigated despotism. Such are the melancholy teachings of history, and, may heaven grant, that our own State and Republic may not add another mournful page to the chronicle of human guilt. There always have been, and, until more correct views of the nature of Government shall be generally disseminated, there ever will be, two parties; by whatever name they may be called, distinctly discriminated by their peculiar opinions on this subject. There will be those who regard society as nothing but a partnership for the pursuit of wealth, making this the leading object, and regarding it as the only true exponent of the power and happiness of the community, and Government as but a directory, endowed with powers to uphold and exhaust the resources of the community for that purpose. They will uniformly labor for the concentration of wealth in few hands, for it is its aggregate and not its distribution, its facility of being wielded, not its employment by the sagacity and skill of individual industry—that in the view of this class of politicians constitutes the main object of the social compact. This policy we see in operation in England, and its commencement in several States in our Union. Its disastrous effects are seen in the grinding despotism in England that has broken down the energies, corrupted the virtues, and brutalized the intellect of the poorer classes—whom legislation has first impoverished and then enslaved.

The other class of political opinions presents a more just and simple view of Government.—The great interest in which all participate alike, are, in this view, the proper sphere of Government. Life, property, freedom of the person, of conscience, of speech, of the press, and of industry, are to be protected, not interfered with, or regulated by the State. Government is to be left rather in the character of a guardian, than a task-master or regulator. 'His blessings are to descend like the dews from heaven,' upon the rich and the poor, the high and low, invigorating industry by its protection elevating the taste, enlightening the intellect, and promoting the general welfare by the means it secures to each to seek his own happiness under the broad shield of the equity and power of the whole community. So far from regarding the increase of general wealth as the chief object of legislation, democracy views it as entirely subordinate—to be left to individual industry—which when free will find the appropriate means of its ready acquisition, and asks of Government to secure it in the possession and enjoyment of the fruits of its honest labors. So far from desiring the concentration of wealth, democracy is jealous of its augmentation in few hands, and labors for its general distribution, not through the agency of laws, but leaving the current to find its channel and subside to its proper level—by the operation of causes above the reach of legislation. Free industry will scatter its rich blessings, not accumulate them in a mass.

We shall pursue this subject, hereafter, and take occasion now only to say that we are opposed to engaging the State in Banking or other corporations—as utterly opposed to opinions always entertained by the democracy of this State and country, and as calculated to work an entire change in the character and bearing of our republican institutions.

KING OF PRUSSIA AND THE MILLER.

There was near Potsdam, in the reign of Frederick the Great, a mill which interfered with the view from the windows of Sans Souci. Annoyed by this eye-sore to his favorite residence, the King sent to inquire the price for which the mill would be sold by the owner. "For no price," was the reply of the sturdy Prussian; and in a moment of anger Frederick gave orders that the mill should be pulled down. "He may do this," said the miller, quietly folding his arms, "but there are laws in Prussia" and forthwith he commenced proceedings against the monarch the result of which was, that the court sentenced Frederick to rebuild the mill, and to pay besides a large sum of money as compensation for the injury which he had done. The King was mortified but had the magnanimity to say, addressing himself to his courtiers, "I am glad to find that just and upright judgment exists in my kingdom." The above anecdote is well known to every reader of Prussian history, but is necessary to be related here, as an introduction to that which follows. About three years ago the present head of the honest miller's family—his name is Frank—who had in due course of time succeeded to the hereditary possession of his little estate, finding himself, after a long struggle with losses occasioned by the war, which brought ruin into many a house besides his own involved in pecuniary difficulties that had become insurmountable, wrote to the King of Prussia, reminding him of the refusal experienced Frederick the Great, at the hand of his ancestor, and stating that if his majesty now entertained a similar desire to obtain possession of the property, it would be very agreeable to him in his present embarrassed circumstances to sell the mill. The King wrote immediately to him, with his own hand, the following reply:

"My dear neighbor, I cannot allow you to sell the mill; it must remain in your possession as long as one member of your family exists; for it belongs to the history of Prussia. I lament now even to hear that you are in circumstances of embarrassment and I therefore send 6,000—about £1000, sterling—to arrange your affairs, in the hope that this sum will be sufficient for that purpose.

"Consider me always your affectionate neighbor."

FREDERICK WILLIAM.

We learn that information has been received in this city, that General Gaines, with about twelve hundred men, took up his line of march from Tampa bay on the 15th ultimo, and encamped the first night about six miles from the fort, on his way to Fort King. He will pursue the route taken by Major Dade, and thus pass through the country occupied by the hostile Indians.

We observe in the Key West Inquirer of the 13th ultimo, a contradiction from the collector, of the story which has been running through the newspapers, that the Indians had been supplied with arms by the Spanish fishermen. "Thus," says the editor, "do mountains grow out of mole hills."

The same paper contains a letter from Lieutenant Avord, dated at Tampa bay, in which he states that the commanding officer had burnt the quarters at Fort Brooke, and that scarce a vestige is left of the cantonment. He adds, "Little did we think that our first success would be from the navy. Glory ever rest upon the act." Really it seems to us that the panic must have been great indeed, when officers of the army could act and write in this manner. We were brought up in the west, and have heard many tales of Indian cruelty and bravery; but that the Seminoles intended to attack a fortified position, maintained by regular troops, friendly Indians, and some volunteer force, probably to the amount of upwards of three hundred, and defended by cannon, is something new. In the west the women would have repulsed them, as they aided in doing at Wheeling and other places.

It seems that every place in Florida expected Powell and his force at the same time. He was, as reports said, at Tampa bay, at Fort King, preparing to attack St. Augustine in boats, and looked for at Tallahassee. And yet for more than six weeks the Indians have struck no stroke, nor appeared anywhere in much force. They have done great injury, destroyed a large amount of property, and occasioned much waste of life; and the situation of that part of the territory where all this has occurred, is greatly to be deplored. We trust that in a short time this lamentable state of things will be over; but in the meantime the strength of the Indians should not be magnified, nor unreasonable apprehensions be entertained, and the exertions of our forces thus paralyzed.—Globe.

The New York Courier and inquirer, have engaged an intelligent Gentleman to repair to the seat of war in Florida and transmit the news by express to the sea board and thence to New York by the regular mail or the Washington express; several letters have been received from him, in which he states that the whole force of the Indians east of the St. Johns at this time is about 500 men. That Gen. Scott's plan will be, to hem them in between the Georgia limits and a certain point on the south so as to cut off their retreat either way; if they do not cut off they will be completely in the General's power.—The whole U. S. States force comprising volunteers in East Florida is upwards of 6000 men, more than sufficient to exterminate the Indians if they can only be got at. It is the opinion there that Powell is still living. The writer further states that there had been some difficulty with the South Carolina volunteers, who being sent by Gen. Enslin with some wagons to Picolai, on reaching Hauson's, refused to pro-

ceed further; a detachment had been sent out one part to take the wagons to their place of destination, the other to bring back the refractory volunteers; it was expected that unpleasant consequences might ensue from the resistance of the volunteers—who though fine men as a body are not sufficiently accustomed to military discipline to act on all occasions with a due degree of subordination.

Free Press & Advocate.

We give the following quotation from the Intelligence of 1812, to show how entirely it has now reversed all the principles of the Republican school which once gave character and weight with the people of this country. The National Intelligence is quite in triumph at the late act of the minority Legislature of Pennsylvania, which overshadows the Government of the State by a Bank Government controlling 35 millions of dollars, and which associates its influence with all the common schools in the State, and with all its internal improvements; thus sapping free government in its primary institutions by a moneyed influence, which, like the whirlpool of Norway, draws every thing into the gorges of the monopoly. What the Intelligence, when under Republican councils, thought of the various attempts of the Bank in 1812 to secure a State charter, will be seen in the following article: From the National Intelligence of Jan. 25 1812.

"BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.—We have the pleasure to announce the rejection of the application of the trustees of the late Bank of the United States to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, for a charter for a Bank of \$5000,000.

"We have been favored with the following copies of two propositions which were made by the agent of the trustees to the committee to whom the subject was referred."

Here follow the propositions of the trustees made through their agent Horace Binney, offering a large bonus to be expended in different sections of the State upon works of internal improvement, &c.

The Intelligence, after giving these, further says:

"The bill before the House of Representatives predicated on these propositions was negatived in Committee of the Whole, and on the 20th inst. the House concurred in their report; sixty-nine yeas, twenty-two nays.

"Those of the yeas in italics are democrats; the rest are federalists. There is not a federal in the list of yeas.

"In this magnanimous refusal of the legislature to aggrandize the State at the expense of her neighbors, the people will see new evidence that Pennsylvania maintains her high political character, with a consistency which must insure her the respect of every friend to American interest. May others imitate so noble an example!" —Globe.

From the Argus.

CONGRESS. In the Senate, on Monday, a message was received from the President communicating an account of all contracts for supplying the naval service for the past year. Several resolutions were submitted, and the abolition question was then taken up. The question was then on Mr. Calhoun's motion that the petition be not received. Mr. Cuthbert, of Ga. spoke in favor of Mr. Brown and Mr. Hubbard against the proposition. It was understood that Mr. Calhoun would close the debate on Tuesday. At 3 o'clock the Senate went into executive business.

The House of Representatives refused, 96 to 69, to suspend the rules on motion of Mr. Patten, to enable him to submit a motion to withdraw the Resolutions of the Virginia Legislature, which were presented on Monday, and sent to the Select Committee. The special order of the day, (the Naval Appropriation Bill,) was suspended, and the remainder of the session consumed in the reception of petitions.

In the Senate on Tuesday, March 8th, a statement of the condition of the Deposite Banks to the 1st of Feb. was received from the Secretary of the Treasury. The Abolition debate continued. Mr. Calhoun had the floor, when the Senate adjourned.

In the House, the New York Relief Bill was passed 114 to 94. The House adjourned over to Thursday, in order to allow the members an opportunity to witness the launch of the ship of war Columbia.

In the SENATE on Wednesday March 9th, the petition of the Society of Friends, for the abolition of Slavery in Philadelphia, was taken up. Mr. Calhoun spoke in favor of his motion not to receive the petition. The question was then taken and decided as follows:—

YEAS.—Messrs. Benton, Brown, Buchanan, Clay, Clayton, Crittenden, Davis, Ewing, [Ill.] Ewing, [Ohio], Goldsborough, Grundy, Hendricks, Hill, Hubbard, Kent, King, [Ala.] King, [Ga.] Knight, Linn, McKean, Morris, Naadain, Niles, Prentiss, Robbins, Robinson, Ruggles, Shepley, Southard, Swift, Tallmadge, Tipton, Tomlinson, Wall, Webster, Wright—36.

NAYS.—Messrs. Black, Calhoun, Cuthbert, Leigh, Moore, Nichols, Porter, Preston, Walker, White.—10.

THE ELECTION.

Which took place in this State on Tuesday last, resulted in the complete triumph of democratic cause, Hon. ISAAC HILL is elected Governor, by a larger majority than any candidate ever before received in the State. The five democratic candidates for the Council are elected, and all, with one exception, by overwhelming majorities. Eleven, certainly, of the twelve democratic candidates for the Senate are elected, and possibly the twelfth also—and the democratic candidates for County officers are elected in every County with the exception of

Cheshire, and not unlikely they may be even there. In the House of Representatives there will be a larger democratic majority than ever before say four to one.—N. H. Patriot.

The Assembly of Pennsylvania have passed concurrent resolutions, 64 to 22, instructing their Senators in Congress to resist any attempt which may expunge from the journals of the Senate the resolutions of the 28th March, 1834, declaring "that the President in the late executive proceedings in relation to the public revenue, has assumed upon himself the authority and power not conferred by the constitution and laws, but in derogation of both."

MARRIED.

In Luckfield, 13th inst. by James Bowler, Esq. Mr. Albert Fance of Portland, to Miss Mchitah Mayhew of Paris.

In Norway, by Rev. Henry Latham, Mr. Amos Noyes to Miss Lydia Hobbs, both of Norway.

Collector's Notice. Hiram.

It is hereby notified to the proprietors of the lands hereafter mentioned in the town of Hiram, in the County of Oxford and State of Maine, that the same are taxed in the bills committed for collection to the undersigned Collector of said Hiram for the year 1834, in the respective sums following, viz:—

Name of Proprietor.	No. of Acres.	No. of Disposition or Disposition of Range.	Value.	State, County and Town Tax for 1834.	Delinquency of Taxes for 1833.
James Osgood,	unk.	unk.	\$20 58	7.23	5.40
Simon Pease,	unk.	unk.	107 321		

The said Collector will proceed according to law to sell at Public Auction, to the highest bidder at the Store of Barker & Hamblen, in said Hiram, at twelve of the clock at noon, on the thirtieth day of June next, so much of said lands as shall be sufficient to discharge said taxes and the necessary intervening charges, if no person shall appear on or before that time to discharge said taxes and charges.

Dated at said Hiram the 14th day of March, A.D. 1836.

PLEG WADSWORTH, Collector.

CHEAP CASH STORE.

JOHN J. PERRY.

Oxford, (Craigie's Mills).

HAVING some months since taken the Store and purchased the entire stock of Goods of the late firm of A. G. Foss & Co., would respectfully inform his friends and the public generally, that in addition to his former stock of Goods, he has just received a rich and valuable assortment of ENGLISH, FRENCH, & WEST INDIA GOODS; HOLLOW AND HARD WARE, AND CROCKERY; together with a complete assortment of DRUGS AND MEDICINES, and a variety of other articles too numerous to be particularized, all of which he now offers in the country.

J. J. P. would most respectfully invite his friends and purchasers generally, to call and examine for themselves, and he will guarantee that so far as the quality or the price of Goods are concerned, there shall be "NO MISTAKE."

WANTED, in exchange for Goods, all kinds of Lard and Provisions, for which the highest market prices will be paid.

February 10th, 1836. 6wis28

SLEIGH FOR SALE.

FOR SALE by the subscriber, a first rate single SLEIGH steel shod. Terms very favorable.

W. E. GOODNOW.

Norway Village, Jan. 18, 1836.

"MONEY!"

ALL persons indebted to the Subscriber whose Accounts are of six months standing, will much oblige by settling the same immediately.

W. E. GOODNOW.

Norway-Village, March 1, 1836. 3w29

TO MILL OWNERS.

THE public are hereby notified that N. G. NORRIS continues to manufacture the improved portable

Smut Machines,

at Sandwich, N. H.; at which place persons wishing to purchase can be accommodated on reasonable terms at the shortest notice.

Sandwich, October, 1835. 170

ENGLISH SCHOOL.

THE SPANISH TINY of the NORWAY ENG-

LISH SCHOOL will commence on the 4th of April, under the instruction of J. W. HOBBS. Instruction will be given in all the English branches, including Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Botany, Aerology, Rhetoric, Geography, Algebra, Senary, &c. Particular attention will be given to the Elementary studies, and no exertions spared, to render them plain and interesting.

Students from a distance can be accommodated with board on reasonable terms.

Tuition, from \$2.50 to 3.00.

Norway, March 8, 1836. 1f 31

DR. GREFFITH'S

Vegetable Balsamic Gum or Plaster,

FOR the Rheumatism, Pains, lameness and weakness in the side, breast and back, and for Corns on the feet. Likewise a superior application for all kinds of fresh wounds, old sores, burns, &c. For sale by

S. CROCKETT, & Co.

Paris-Hill, March 14, 1836. 31

WANTED

IMMEDIATELY BY MRS.

H. W. GOODNOW, for

YORK LAMBS as Apprentices

to the MILLINERY & MAN-

UFACTURING business.

Norway-Village, March 14, 1836.

PILLS.

DEAN'S Thayer's, and Lee's PILLS, just received

(French) and for sale by S. CROCKETT & Co.

Paris-Hill, March 14, 1836. 31

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber would inform the public that he has

taken the Store in South Paris lately occupied by

Mr. CYRUS THAYER, where he intends to keep as

general an assortment of Goods as is usually kept in a

country Store and would most respectfully solicit a

share of public patronage.

JOSEPH CUMMINGS, Jr.

South Paris Jan. 23 1836.

Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam.

THE most valuable remedy discovered for Consump-

tion, Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Spitting of Blood,

Hemoptoe, Coughs, and Pulmonary affections of every kind.

For sale by

S. CROCKETT, & Co.

Paris-Hill, March 14, 1836. 31

NOTICE.

WHEREAS, my wife, Abeline, has left my bed and board

without justifiable cause and refuses to live with me,

and has taken away with her my two children.—This is to for-

bid all persons from harboring her and them at my expense, and

I shall not pay for her or their support at any other place than

their home with me, nor discharge any debt they may contract.

OXFORD, March 8, 1836. THOMAS AUSTIN. 381



This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor discoloration and small dark spots, possibly due to age or handling. A faint horizontal crease is visible near the top edge. The left edge of the page shows the binding of the book.